



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



RODNEY A. STOKES
DIRECTOR

February 9, 2012

Dear Upper Peninsula Wildlife Conservation Organization:

A cooperative funding Grant program designed to enhance deer habitat in the Upper Peninsula is available from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Wildlife Division's Deer Habitat Improvement Partnership Initiative (DHPI) is an opportunity to foster cooperative projects between the DNR, conservation organizations, and non-government organization's that will enhance private land habitat for white-tailed deer. Organizations, either independent or affiliated with larger groups, which have a formal mission to promote wildlife conservation and/or hunting, will be eligible to apply for funding. New for 2012 the DNR has the authority to expend Deer Range Improvement Program (DRIP) funds to support the DHPI as formal Grants. This year a total of \$50,000 from the DRIP fund, generated from deer hunting license fees, is available on a competitive basis. Grant proposals for projects ranging from two to ten thousand dollars are being sought. There are three primary Initiative goals which all proposals must address: (1) to produce tangible deer habitat improvement; (2) to promote long-term relationships between sportsperson's organizations, other partners, and the DNR; (3) and to showcase these projects to the public.

While it is the responsibility of interested organizations to craft project proposals, it is strongly encouraged that they contact their local wildlife biologist to help develop suitable proposals. Attached you will find an application form, Initiative summary handout, and complete information on the: goals, proposal requirements & criteria, eligibility rules, Grant process and funding limitations, proposal selection process, implementation process, communications strategy and outreach. Proposals will be competitively evaluated on a set of criteria by a multi-disciplinary selection committee

Completed applications must be postmarked on, or before, March 31, 2012 and addressed to: Bill Scullon, Initiative Biologist, DNR Norway Field Office, 520 West US Hwy 2, Norway MI 49870. Successful applicants will be notified by April 14, 2012.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information at: (906) 563-9247, fax (906) 563-5802 or email at scullonh@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Bill Scullon
Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife Division

BS
Enclosures